

3.6 The mighty chain rule

used to take the der. of a
composite function

composite function :
function of a function

out in
↓ ↓

$$y = f(g(x))$$
$$y = f \circ g(x)$$

ex. $y = \sin(x^5)$

↑ out ↑ in

$y' = 5x^4 \cos(x^5)$

↑ der of in ↑ der of out (eval at in)
i.e. not $\cos x$

$$y = \tan(x^2 + 2x + 1)$$

$$y' = (2x + 2) \sec^2(x^2 + 2x + 1)$$

$$y = \sec^3 x = (\sec x)^3$$

in
↓
3 ← out

$$y' = \sec x \tan x \cdot 3(\sec x)^2$$

$$y = (x^2 + 2x + 1)^7$$

$$y' = (2x+2) \cdot 7(x^2+2x+1)^6$$

inside: x^2+2x+1
 outside: u^7
 der: $7u^6$

$$u = x^2 + 2x + 1$$

$$y = x^2 (x^2 + 2x + 1)^7$$

product,

$$y' = x^2 \cdot [(2x+2) \cdot 7(x^2+2x+1)^6] + (x^2+2x+1) \cdot 2x$$

p149 chain rule

$$\text{if } y = f(g(x))$$
$$\text{then } y' = g'(x) f'(g(x))$$

$$\text{if } y = f(u) \quad u = g(x)$$

out y is a function of u and

in u is a function of x

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} \leftarrow \text{der of inside}$$

↑
der of outside

$$y = \sin(x^5) \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = 5x^4 \cos(x^5)$$

↑ u ↑ $\frac{du}{dx}$ ↑ $\frac{dy}{du}$

$$y = f(u) = u^3 + 1, \quad u = \sin x$$

$$f'(x) = ?$$

$$f(x) = \sin^3 x + 1$$

$$f(x) = (\sin x)^3 + 1$$

$$f'(x) = \cos x \cdot 3(\sin x)^2 + 0$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$= 3u^2 \cdot \cos x$$

$$= 3(\sin x)^2 \cos x$$